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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yasuaki MUTO et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Serial No. : 09/889,585

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed : August 1, 2001

For : VIDEO SIGNAL CONVERSION DEVICE AND
VIDEO SIGNAL CONVERSION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, the Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 5,978,958 to TANAKA et al., entitled "Data Transmission System, Data Recording and Reproducing Apparatus and Recording Medium Each Having Data Structure or Error Correcting Code", which issued on June 2, 1999;

Japanese Patent No. 7-123367 to Nippon Television Network Corp., published May 12, 1995. The relevance is recited, inter alia, on page 2 of the specification. An English language abstract of the same is provided; and

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Japanese Patent No. 10-134175 to Sony Corp., published May 22, 1998. The relevance is recited, inter alia, on page 5 of the specification. An English abstract of the same is provided.

The Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention documents cited in an International Search Report mailed by the Japanese Patent Office on March 6, 2001 with regard to the PCT counterpart of the present application.

An English-language version of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report are being provided to satisfy the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance of the cited documents. The International Search Report documents are cited as "A" and "Y" documents. "A" category documents are documents defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance. "Y" category documents are documents of particular relevance that when combined with another such document, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step to one skilled in the art.

The following documents were cited in the International Search Report:

World Intellectual Property Organization No. 99/53473, A, to Seiko Epson Corporation, published October 21, 1999 is cited as a "Y" reference relevant to claims 1 and 9, and as an "A" reference relevant to claims 2-8 and 10-16. The full text and figures 1-15

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of the reference are cited as being the relevant passages. The reference, an English language abstract of the reference, and a partial English language translation is provided;

Japanese Patent Publication No. 7-59056, A, to Sony Corporation, published March 3, 1995 is cited as a "Y" reference relevant to claims 1 and 9, and as an "A" reference relevant to claims 2-8 and 10-16. The full text and figures 1-10 of the reference are cited as being the relevant passages. The reference, an English language abstract of the reference, and a partial English language translation is provided;

Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-136643, A, to Canon Inc., published May 21, 1999 is cited as a "Y" reference relevant to claims 1 and 9, and as an "A" reference relevant to claims 2-1 and 10-16. Paragraph Nos. [0002] and [0003] and figure 6 of the reference are cited as being the relevant passages. The reference, an English language abstract of the reference, and a partial English language translation is provided; and

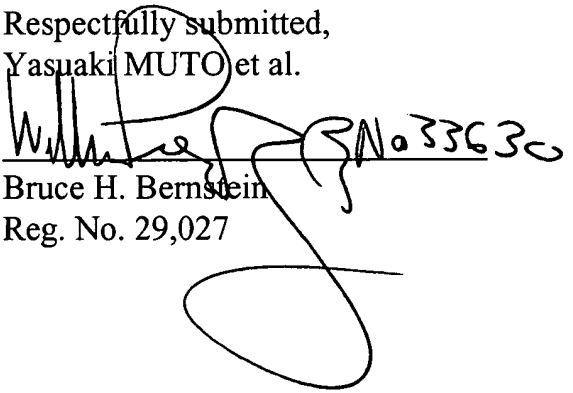
U.S. Patent No. 5,534,934, A, to Hitachi Corp., published July 9, 1996 is cited as a "Y" reference relevant to claims 1 and 9, and as an "A" reference relevant to claims 2-8 and 10-16. The full text and figures 1-10 of the reference are cited as being the relevant passages. The reference, an English language abstract of the reference, and a partial English language translation is provided. Family members JP 7-7723, A and EP 630154, A were also noted.

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A copy of each of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Yasuaki MUTO et al.


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November 19, 2001
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